Forests

Action taken by Government on the resolution recommending the appointment of a committee to enquire into the forest grievances of ryots.

*1024 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what action Government have taken on the resolution passed in this Council on 6th September 1928 recommending the appointment of a committee to enquire into the grievances of ryots in forest areas; and

(b) whether Government propose to invest forest panchayats with judicial functions in respect of minor forest offences?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 726 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty.

(b) If the hon. Member means to suggest that forest panchayats might be empowered to try minor forest offences as a Court, the proposal would seem open to the objection that it would make the prosecutor the Judge. If the hon. Member means something else, perhaps he would state his suggestion more clearly.

Mr. D. Narayana Raju:—"May I know whether any progress has been made in the consideration of the question, such as the appointment of a committee, etc., since the answer to Mr. Shetty's question has been given?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"The Government has not come to any conclusion."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju:—"May I know whether any of the recommendations that have been made are under consideration?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"The Government have been considering and have not yet come to any conclusion."

Mr. K. R. Karant:—"Is this a case where Government do not want to appoint a committee?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"The Government have not come to any conclusion; it is not possible to say anything more at present."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"When is the Government likely to come to a conclusion on this point?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"After the budget discussion is over."

Permission to villagers for hunting wild animals in the forests of South Kanara.

*1025 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: With reference to the answer to clause (c) of question No. 368, answered on 8th October 1928, regarding permission to villagers for hunting wild animals in the forests of South Kanara will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state what decision the Government have arrived at regarding the permission to be obtained for hunting in the reserves? 11-3 a.m.

A.—The Government have authorized the Collector to delegate his powers of granting permission to the local Revenue Divisional officers.